

**REMARKS**

Claims 1-7 are pending in the present application. Claims 8 and 9 are added. Support for the subject matter recited in claims 8 and 9 is found in the specification.

Specifically, support for claim 8 is found on page 14, lines 15-23, and support for claim 9 is found on page 15, lines 9-20, of the specification. Further support is found in Tables 9-11. Specifically, Tables 10 and 11 on pages 59 and 60 of the specification, respectively, show that the S627I mutant ALS protein exhibits high resistance to a pyriithiobac sodium herbicide and/or a pyriminobac herbicide. Tables 9 and 10 on page 57 of the specification show that the S627I mutant ALS protein exhibits a higher resistance to a pyriithiobac sodium herbicide and/or a pyriminobac herbicide than to a bispyribac sodium herbicide.

No new matter is inserted into the application. Entry of the above amendments is earnestly solicited. An early and favorable first action on the merits is earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner have any questions regarding the above, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Kristi L. Rupert, Ph.D. (Reg. No. 45,702) at the telephone number of the undersigned below.

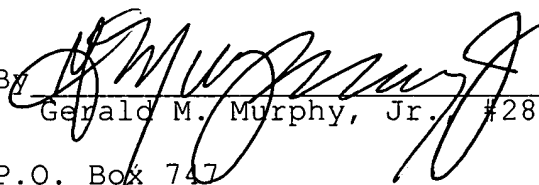
If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional

fees required under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.17; particularly,  
extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

BIRCH, STEWART, KOLASCH & BIRCH, LLP

By

  
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